Funds collected under various heads from cellular operators

†3224. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount collected under various heads from cellular phone operators is in India is higher in comparison to China;

(b) if so, the various heads and the amount collected thereunder in India;

(c) whether it is also a fact that common consumer is not able to get cost effective services due to heavy Government recoveries; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) As per information available, regulatory levies in India and China are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The mobile tariff has been for borne by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) except roaming tariff, wherein ceiling rates have been prescribed. There has been a steep reduction in the mobile tariffs in the last few years and the mobile tariffs in the country are lower than that of China.

Statement

Regulatory Levies in India and China

	India	China
Sector Charges	%age of Revenue	%age of Revenue
Service Tax, GST	10%+GST	3%
Licence Fee	5-10%	Nil
Spectrum Charges	2-6%*	0.5%* (China Mobile)
USO Levy	Included in license fees	Nil

* Estimated from spectrum fees and revenue of China Mobile

GST-General Sales Tax

USO-Universal Service Obligation

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.